

Appln. No. 09/883,247
Amendment dated Dec. 27, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Aug. 25, 2004
Docket No. 6169-190

IBM Docket No. BOC9-2000-0055

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A monitoring tool comprising:
 - a placebo transaction dispatcher for dispatching placebo transactions to a subscribing e-commerce system;
 - a response collector for collecting responses to dispatched placebo transactions;
 - a logger for computing transaction latency data based upon when a placebo transaction is dispatched to said subscribing e-commerce system, and when a response is received in said collector; and,
 - an alerter for alerting said subscribing e-commerce system when computed transaction latency data indicates an unreliable response condition in an associated back-end transaction processing system.
2. (Original) The monitoring tool of claim 1, further comprising a user interface through which a user can monitor said transaction latency data.
3. (Original) The monitoring tool of claim 1, further comprising a list of references to a plurality of subscribing e-commerce systems, said dispatcher dispatching placebo transactions to each e-commerce system in said list, said collector collecting responses to said dispatched placebo transactions, said logger computing transaction latency data based upon when each placebo transaction is dispatched to a subscribing e-commerce system, and when a corresponding response is received in said collector, said alerter alerting individual subscribing e-commerce systems when computed

Appln. No. 09/888,247

IBM Docket No. BOC9-2000-0055

Amendment dated Dec. 27, 2004

Reply to Office Action of Aug. 25, 2004

Docket No. 6169-190

transaction latency data for said individual subscribing e-commerce systems indicates an unreliable response condition in an associated back-end transaction processing system.

4. (Original) A monitoring tool comprising:

a placebo transaction dispatcher for dispatching placebo transactions to a back-end transaction processing system associated with a subscribing e-commerce system;

a response collector for collecting responses to dispatched placebo transactions;

a logger for computing transaction latency data based upon when a placebo transaction is dispatched to said back-end transaction processing system, and when a response is received in said collector; and,

an alerter for alerting said subscribing e-commerce system when computed transaction latency data indicates an unreliable response condition in said associated back-end transaction processing system.

5. (Original) The monitoring tool of claim 4, further comprising a user interface through which a user can monitor said transaction latency data.

6. (Original) A method for detecting an unreliable response condition in a back-end transaction processing system associated with an e-commerce system comprising the steps of:

generating a placebo transaction;

dispatching said placebo transaction to the e-commerce system;

determining if a response to said placebo transaction is received;

if no response to said placebo transaction is received prior to detecting a time-out condition, notifying the e-commerce system that an unreliable response condition exists in the back-end transaction processing system; and,

Appln. No. 09/883,247
Amendment dated Dec. 27, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Aug. 25, 2004
Docket No. 6169-190

IBM Docket No. BOC9-2000-0055

if a response to said placebo transaction is received after period of time has elapsed from said dispatching of said placebo transaction which exceeds a latency threshold, notifying the e-commerce system that an unreliable response condition exists in the back-end transaction processing system.

7. (Original) A method for detecting an unreliable response condition in a back-end transaction processing system associated with an e-commerce system comprising the steps of:

- generating a placebo transaction;
- dispatching said placebo transaction to the back-end transaction processing system;
- determining if a response to said placebo transaction is received;
- if no response to said placebo transaction is received prior to detecting a time-out condition, notifying the e-commerce system that an unreliable response condition exists in the back-end transaction processing system; and,
- if a response to said placebo transaction is received after period of time has elapsed from said dispatching of said placebo transaction which exceeds a latency threshold, notifying the e-commerce system that an unreliable response condition exists in the back-end transaction processing system.

8. (Original) A method for detecting unreliable response conditions in a plurality of back-end transaction processing systems comprising the steps of:

- reading a list of references to a plurality of subscribing e-commerce systems;
- generating and dispatching placebo transactions to each e-commerce system in said list;
- receiving responses to said dispatched placebo transactions;

Appln. No. 09/888,247
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Docket No. 6169-190

IBM Docket No. BOC9-2000-0055

computing transaction latency data based upon when each placebo transaction is dispatched to a subscribing e-commerce system, and when a corresponding response is received; and,

notifying individual subscribing e-commerce systems when computed transaction latency data for said individual subscribing e-commerce systems indicates an unreliable response condition in an associated back-end transaction processing system.

9. (Original) A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for detecting an unreliable response condition in a back-end transaction processing system associated with an e-commerce system, said computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

generating a placebo transaction;

dispatching said placebo transaction to the e-commerce system;

determining if a response to said placebo transaction is received;

if no response to said placebo transaction is received prior to detecting a time-out condition, notifying the e-commerce system that an unreliable response condition exists in the back-end transaction processing system; and,

if a response to said placebo transaction is received after period of time has elapsed from said dispatching of said placebo transaction which exceeds a latency threshold, notifying the e-commerce system that an unreliable response condition exists in the back-end transaction processing system.

10. (Original) A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for detecting an unreliable response condition in a back-end transaction processing system associated with an e-commerce system, said computer program having

Appl. No. 09/883,247
Amendment dated Dec. 27, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Aug. 25, 2004
Docket No. 6169-190

IBM Docket No. BOC9-2000-0055

a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

- generating a placebo transaction;
- dispatching said placebo transaction to the back-end transaction processing system;
- determining if a response to said placebo transaction is received;
- if no response to said placebo transaction is received prior to detecting a time-out condition, notifying the e-commerce system that an unreliable response condition exists in the back-end transaction processing system; and,
- if a response to said placebo transaction is received after period of time has elapsed from said dispatching of said placebo transaction which exceeds a latency threshold, notifying the e-commerce system that an unreliable response condition exists in the back-end transaction processing system.

11. (Original) A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for detecting unreliable response conditions in a plurality of back-end transaction processing systems, said computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

- reading a list of references to a plurality of subscribing e-commerce systems;
- generating and dispatching placebo transactions to each e-commerce system in said list;
- receiving responses to said dispatched placebo transactions;
- computing transaction latency data based upon when each placebo transaction is dispatched to a subscribing e-commerce system, and when a corresponding response is received; and,

Appln. No. 09/888,247

IBM Docket No. BOC9-2000-0055

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Docket No. 6169-190

notifying individual subscribing e-commerce systems when computed transaction latency data for said individual subscribing e-commerce systems indicates an unreliable response condition in an associated back-end transaction processing system.